
PETITION.

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, in Parliament assembled :

The petition of the Corporation of the City of Victoria humbly sheweth :—

That a requisition was presented to the Municipal Council, asking that a public meeting be convened to consider the application of the Esquimalt Water Works Company to obtain water from Goldstream.

That a meeting was held in the City Hall, on Monday evening, the 29th of February, 1892, and the following resolution was passed almost unanimously.

“Moved by Alderman Munn, and seconded by Mr. J. H. Todd :—

“Whereas the Corporation of the City of Victoria have acquired the right to divert and appropriate such water as may be deemed suitable and proper from the streams and lakes within twenty miles of the city, for the purpose of supplying the citizens of Victoria ; and

“Whereas the Esquimalt Water Works Company were subsequently incorporated, and were granted the right to divert and appropriate the waters of Thetis Lake and Deadman’s River, in order to supply the town of Esquimalt and the peninsula adjacent thereto ; and

“Whereas the right then obtained infringed upon the prior right of Victoria, but was allowed to be acquired, as the city did not absolutely require that source of supply, but it was considered that the residents of Esquimalt might do so ; and

“Whereas the Esquimalt Water Works Company, not content with that concession, are now seeking legislative authority to obtain water from Goldstream River ; and

“Whereas their present source of supply is sufficient for a city of several hundred thousand inhabitants ; and

“Whereas the Corporation of Victoria requires water from Goldstream and the waters in its vicinity, in order to supply residents of the higher levels and of its recently extended limits ;

“Be it therefore resolved, that the Legislative Assembly be respectfully requested not to grant to the Esquimalt Company the right now asked for, and not to deal in any way with the water rights within the prescribed limits of twenty miles of the city, without the consent and sanction of the Corporation of the City of Victoria.”

Your petitioners, therefore, pray that your honourable body will be pleased not to grant to the Esquimalt Company the right to obtain water from Goldstream, or the waters in its vicinity, without the consent and sanction of your petitioners. And further, that the water rights within the limits of twenty miles of the City of Victoria be not dealt with without the like consent.

And your petitioners will, as in duty bound, ever pray.

[L.S.]

ROBERT BEAVEN,
Mayor.